

Overview of CIFOR mission, priorities and directions in Congo Basin

CARPE Partners' Meeting

Washington DC 17 February 2014



CIFOR vision:

- Forests (and Landscapes) on the agenda – their values recognized
- Decisions that influence forests and people supported by solid science and principles of good governance

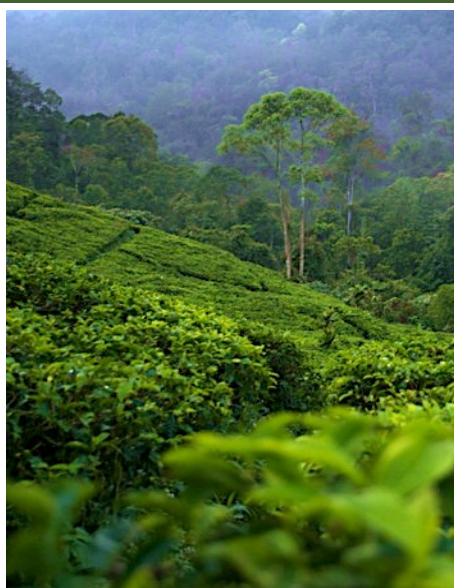




Human resources

- 250+ staff representing 30+ nationalities
- 100+ staff members are Indonesian
- 150+ associates, PhD students, interns, consultants





CGIAR Research Programmes

- **CIFOR is one of the 15** international research organisations in the CGIAR.
- The world's largest **research consortium** on agriculture, forestry and fisheries – 2013 budget of USD 950 million
- CIFOR leads global programme on **Forests, Trees & Agroforestry** and contributes to Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security
- **Sentinel Landscapes** is a key feature – our field laboratory for solutions across disciplines and sectors





20 years of research for impact:

Governance – Livelihoods - Environment





Priorities



Shaping the climate change agenda

- Governments and negotiators have relied on CIFOR's research for climate change policies
- CIFOR coordinated Forest Day – the most influential global forest and climate change conference
- CIFOR's series of REDD+ books downloaded 1.1 million times since 2008
- CIFOR scientists contributed to IPCC and shared the Nobel Prize in 2007
- **Impact:** CIFOR helped shape decisions and policies at global and national scales to reduce emissions and improve adaptation to climate change

President of Mexico
Filipe Calderon





Defining forestry for livelihoods and food security

- Collaborative research with local communities on effectiveness and equity of forest management
- Largest global analysis on importance of forests and forest products for livelihoods
- Significance of forest products as safety nets during times of drought, economic or other crises
- Value chains for sustainable furniture industry
- 20 years of research on property rights for forest dwellers
- Research, guidelines and widely used publications on bushmeat, fruit trees and medicinal plants
- **Impact:** Improved livelihoods and nutrition for forest-dependent people





Thinking beyond the canopy

Gender

- Gender disaggregated data on women's barriers to participation and influence in forestry sector (10 countries).
- Understanding role of women in value chains and market access, climate change adaptation and REDD+.
- Gender findings widely used by multi-lateral agencies, communities and practitioners.
- **Impact:** Gender research has raised voice of women in forest sector and developed gender appropriate research methods



Impacts of land use change

- Decade-long research program on underlying causes of deforestation led to seminal publications emphasizing role of economic incentives for converting forests to other uses
- Recent biofuels research highlights policy implications associated with large-scale land use changes
- Since 2004, CIFOR has convened and coordinated a series of global and regional studies on decentralisation
- **Impact:** Anti-corruption findings have contributed to institutional and legal reforms to improve forest governance





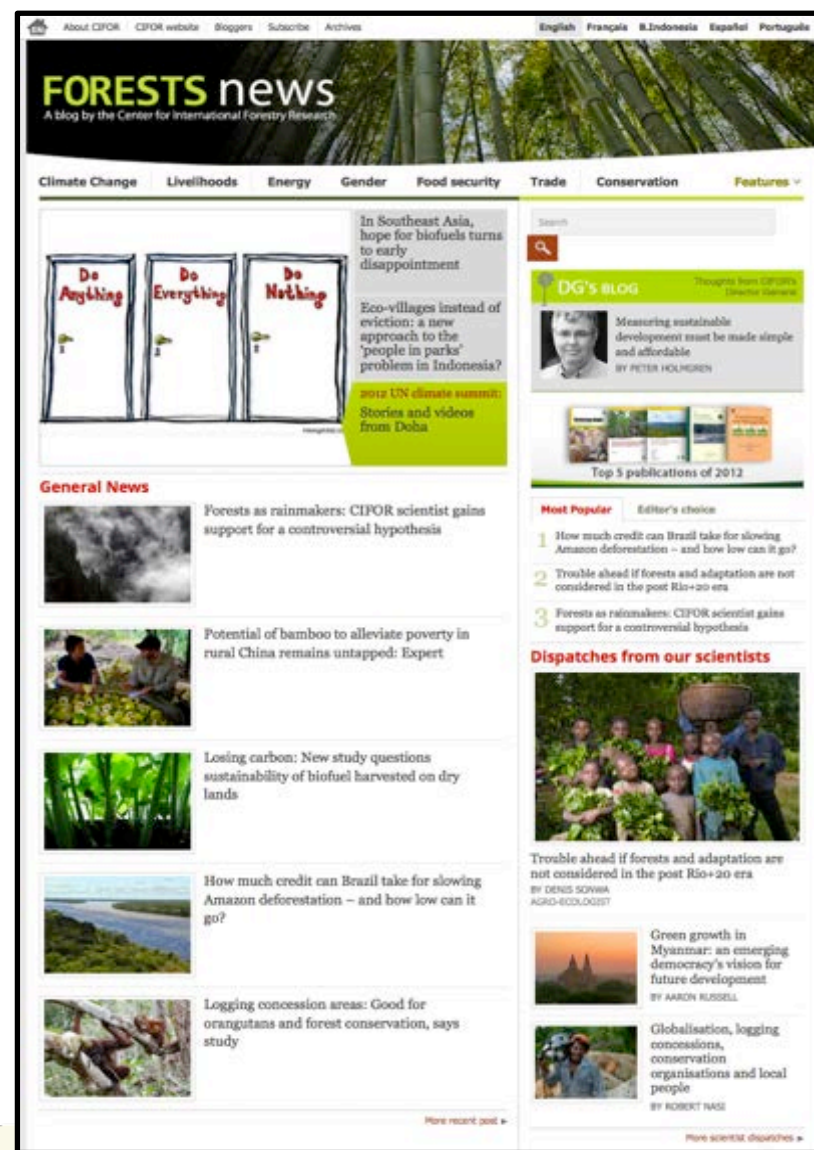
Improved forest management

- CIFOR's work on production forestry, silviculture and sustainable forest management (criteria & indicators, certification standards) led to widely adopted best practices
- Beyond timber: Multiple-use management practices and regulations
- Improved knowledge for sustainable planted forests and forest rehabilitation practices
- **Impact:** Improved FSC certification, adoption of biodiversity-friendly logging guidelines, increased managed forests in Congo Basin (from 0 ha in 1995 to 30 million ha by 2011)



Capacity building & knowledge sharing

- Capacity building embedded in research (50% scientists are from host countries)
- Strong engagement in graduate and post-graduate education and training in developing countries (e.g. DRC, Ethiopia)
- Extensive partnerships for capacity building within CGIAR and with leading universities
- CIFOR's communication programme is among the most influential in international forestry.
- **Impact:** Forestry professionals leading change. Better informed policy-makers making better polices.





Evidence-based forestry initiative

- CIFOR, CATIE, ICRAF, CIRAD, IUFRO and University of Oxford
- Broad collaboration anticipated
- **Systematic reviews to analyse evidence**
- **Determining priority policy-relevant questions**

Initial tranche of systematic reviews as of 14 June 2013

- Does production of oil palm, soybean and jatropha lead to the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem functions in tropics due to deforestation and fragmentation?
- Environmental impacts of different property regimes.
- Forests sustaining agriculture: the contribution of forest-based ecosystem services to agricultural production
- Gender, Forests and Food security
- Alternative livelihoods and biodiversity conservation for evidence-based policy
- What are appropriate criteria and indicators for defining and measuring research quality in the realm of applied natural resources management?
- What is the potential role of land use change dynamics in Miombo woodlands in relation to REDD+?



Some of the work in Congo Basin

- Regional office in Yaoundé; Partnership with several Universities (Yaoundé, Dshang, Kisangani...)
- Global bushmeat project; work on hunting, sustainable use and food security
- SFM and certification effectiveness
- Natural forest dynamics (PSP)
- Participatory landuse planning approaches
- DRC, Cameroon country profiles as part the Global Comparative Study on REDD (funded by Norway)
- Adaptation/mitigation issues around some CBFP landscapes (COBAM project)





Congo Basin Partnership Opportunities

- FAB partnership with CIFOR since 2011
- Host University of Kisangani students; advise on topics, approaches
- Participate in June Biodiversity conference in Kisangani
- Contribute to and make use of global bushmeat project
- Review study on impacts of certification
- Seek and communicate links between biodiversity and food security
- Shifting cultivation, REDD+
- Gender and natural resources
- PSP measurements

